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## THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF SACRED LITERATURE.

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### GENERAL NOTES.

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Among the courses of biblical lectures delivered during the past month are two of special note. The first, a series by Professor Richard G. Moulton, is given under the auspices of the Minneapolis Local Board of the Institute. The lectures are free to the public and are delivered in two churches on the afternoon and evening of the same day (Sunday). The audiences have been large and enthusiastic. The subjects of the lectures are as follows:

- (1) Prophetic Literature as a whole. (2) Epic and Dramatic Prophecy.
- (3) The Orations of Deuteronomy. (4) The Prophetic Rhapsody and Book of Habakkuk.
- (5) Rhapsody of Joel. (6) Rhapsody of Zion Redeemed (Isa. 40-66).

In this connection it is well to note the valuable work which has been done by the Minneapolis Local Board. This Board was one of the first organized by the Institute, and it has each year since its organization conducted a special lecture course. Rev. W. P. McKee, the secretary of the Board, has been indefatigable in his efforts and the results show that these efforts have not been unavailing. The difficulty of interesting the public in biblical lectures is one which can only be overcome by continuous presentation of attractive courses. Among the lecturers in Minneapolis in past years have been Professor E. C. Bissell, Professor Ira M. Price, Professor C. A. Briggs, Professor Richard G. Moulton, Professor William R. Harper.

The second course of lectures referred to is that of Professor Augustus S. Carrier, D.D., of McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. These lectures were delivered at the Church of the Covenant in that city and were intended to meet the needs of that large class of thoughtful Christians who desire information from a reliable source upon the questions at issue, concerning the early religion of Israel. The subjects were: (1) The Five Books of Moses; Theories and Assumptions. (2) The Ten Plagues as a test of the Literary Unity of the Pentateuch. (3) The Tabernacle in the Wilderness; Was it a fact or a figment of the Priests of the Exile? (4) Hilkiah's Discovery in the House of the Lord.

We wish that such courses as these might be multiplied throughout the country until every town of any considerable size should count a biblical lecture course an essential part of its intellectual and spiritual stimulus for each year. The men are ready. Dozens of such courses could be supplied

through the Council of Seventy, but the demand must first come from the communities themselves. Many such have already been given under the auspices of Christian Endeavor Unions, Sunday-school County Associations, individual churches and in colleges.

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The following is a full program of the work which will be offered in the Chautauqua Bible School during the summer of 1896:

First three weeks: Hebrew History, Professor Edw. L. Curtis (Yale University); The Times of the Christ, Professor Shailer Mathews (The University of Chicago); Studies in the Earlier Prophets, Professor Harper (The University of Chicago).

Second three weeks: The Hebrew Psalter, Professor F. K. Sanders (Yale University); The Life of the Christ (with special reference to the development of his idea concerning the kingdom of God), Professor Mathews; Studies in the Earlier Prophets, Professor Harper.

In addition to *beginning* courses in Hebrew and New Testament Greek running through the entire six weeks, the following exegetical courses will be given: (1) The first twelve chapters of the Acts. (2) The letter to the Galatians. In these courses special attention will also be given to the peculiarities of the New Testament Greek and to the syntax. The work will be conducted by Professor Mathews. The instructors in Hebrew will be Professors Sanders and Curtis of Yale, and Professor McClenahan of the U. P. Theological Seminary at Allegheny, Pa. The advanced courses will cover selected Messianic Prophecies, Psalms and some of the Minor Prophets.

Six Sunday morning Bible studies will be given by Professor Harper. He will select for these six brief masterpieces in Hebrew literature. In addition to these, Professors James Agar Beet and George Adam Smith of Great Britain will deliver lectures on biblical subjects. This will be a rare opportunity to come into contact with some of the greatest thinkers of the present day.

The attention of ministers and students in seminaries is especially called to the advanced work in Hebrew and New Testament Greek. The natural attractions of Chautauqua as a place of recreation are so great that nowhere else can one find such a combination of rest and healthful intellectual stimulus. Here the continual giving out process in the life of a busy pastor may be exchanged for a brief time to the equally necessary one of taking in.

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The following gentlemen have been elected trustees of the Council of Seventy: Mr. Cyrus H. McCormick of Chicago, Mr. Cleveland H. Dodge of New York City, and Mr. N. W. Harris of Chicago. The trustees are ex-officio members of the Senate of the Council, and of the finance committee, and have therefore an active part in the management of the institute.